

The Children's Newspaper, Week Ending January 14, 1956

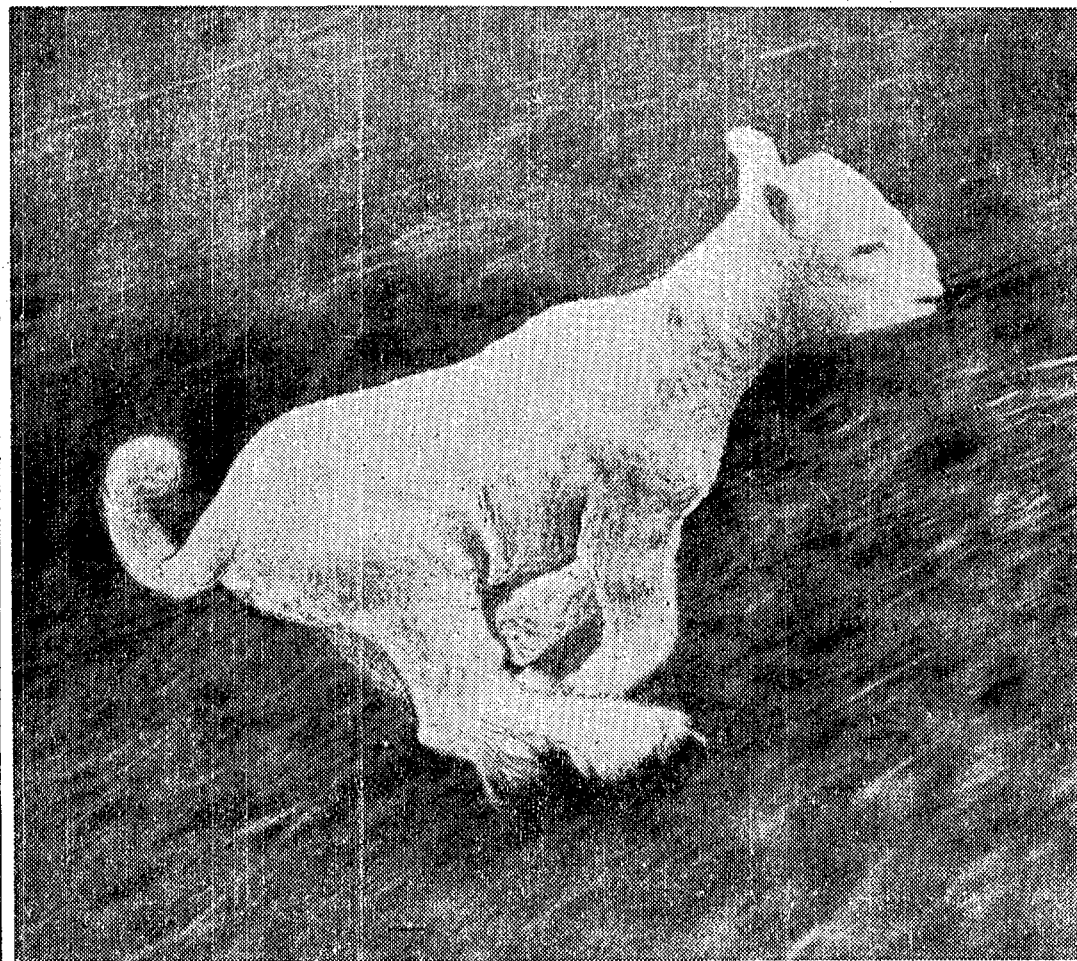
THE BLUE JOHN SECRET—See page 9

# Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

No. 1921, January 14, 1956



## TWO PIES AND A JUG OF TEA

On Wednesdays and Saturdays for the past four years 70-year-old Mrs. Annie Wright of Royston, Yorkshire, has given a pie each to the driver and conductor of the 10.15 a.m. bus from Barnsley.

It all began when, in 1951, the conductress of an early-morning bus felt faint because she had missed her breakfast. Mrs. Wright travels into Barnsley on the 7.50 a.m. bus and ever since she has provided two pies for the crew when she comes back on the 10.15 a.m.

"Ma Wright's pies" have become famous among the drivers and conductors on this route and the other day five of them called at her cottage and presented her with a clock as a mark of gratitude.

A clock was also presented recently to Mrs. C. K. Gibbs of North London by trolleybus crews. She had provided a jug of hot tea, anonymously, at 5.45 every morning.

## BRIGHTER SHEFFIELD

Illuminated flowers now adorn the Sheffield city centre. Some of the lamps near the Town Hall take the form of giant artificial tulips and daffodils and if they prove popular other means of brightening the streets will also be used.

They will be specially welcome during the dark days of winter.

## Winter lamb

The weather may be cold but this little lamb, of the hardy breed known as Dorset Horn, is as frisky as can be.

## BOY VERSUS SNAKE

Ray Montevelli is an Australian boy who owes his life to steady nerves.

He lives at Cairns, in North Queensland, and was out walking on the outskirts of the town when he spotted an eight-foot snake in some bushes. It was a taipan, one of the most deadly reptiles in the world, and it was poised to attack him.

As the snake struck, he stood his ground and beheaded it with a swift and accurate blow of his knife.

Few people have been known to recover from a taipan's bite.

## DOWN THE SLIPWAY ON BANANAS

It is reported from India that bananas by the thousand are being used to grease the slipways whenever a new ship is being launched.

There is a glut of bananas so that their price is much less than the usual soft-soap mixture. But, says Cunard News, if the idea were ever adopted in this country it would make shipbuilding even more costly than it is now.

Many new vessels have been launched in India with coconut milk instead of the traditional bottle of wine.

## DETECTIVE IN THE ART GALLERY

A private detective took a special fingerprint camera into the National Gallery of Art in Washington the other day in the hope of finding fingerprints of the Italian sculptor, Andrea del Verrocchio, on a 500-year-old bust of one of the famous Medici family.

The detective was hired by a New York art expert to try to record, on film, any of the sculptor's fingerprints which might have been left in the clay before it was fired. This was to help verify the authenticity of a terracotta head of John the Baptist whose owner hoped to prove that this, too, was by Verrocchio.

## BEST IN THE COMPANY

Over a month ago Army Cadet Rodney Melhuish of Exeter was stricken with rheumatic fever. But this did not prevent him going to the local T.A. centre the other day to receive the Royal Devon Yeomanry Cup for the best cadet in his company.

Looking cheerful and smart in his neatly pressed cadet uniform, Rodney, who is 15, was pushed in a wheelchair to receive the award from Brigadier P. B. E. Acland. Then he went back to hospital.

## FROM CLASSROOM TO STAGE

### The success story of Diana Day

*The world of entertainment now offers more opportunities to young people than ever before; and right readily are those opportunities being grasped. Take Diana Day, for instance. This girl from Hereford is only 14, but already she has several television and film performances to her credit; and now she is singing and dancing joyfully every afternoon in the Christmas show, Family Fun, at London's Adelphi Theatre. Obviously a bright future awaits young Diana, who was interviewed the other day by a C N correspondent.*

THE first time I met Diana (writes our Correspondent) was at a children's party in South Kensington about two years ago. Wearing a silvery white dress, her light brown plaits were wound round her head, her brown eyes were sparkling with fun; she was amusing herself by operating the lift, escorting parents who were collecting their children. Diana was comparatively unknown then.

Recently, having spotted a photograph of her in a theatrical newspaper announcement, I went along to her school to see her. She was in her grey school uniform with neat brown shoes and stockings, a long plait hung over each shoulder. Her eyes were still twinkling.

### FIVE ENCORES

Diana told me that in her home town, Hereford, she learned ballet from when she was about five, and at eleven was up to Grade 4 (which is about normal). Then two things happened. She had been taking elocution lessons—and had won the Cheltenham Award for Drama—when Harry Roy came down to do a band show arranged by her father.

She was introduced to Harry Roy and for the first time sang a number with his band. It was a song called Half as Much, and was such a success Diana got five encores. "So I sang Half as Much five more times for them," Diana told me. "You see it was the only number I knew."

### HOME FOR THE WEEKEND

Harry Roy advised her parents to send Diana to a theatrical school in London. They took the advice, and now she stays all the week with a friend just round the corner from her school and goes home to Hereford for the weekend.

Diana started to tell as much as she could remember on the spur of the moment about the parts she had played on television.

"Kate in The Windmill Family and the girl's part in The Cat and the Coin—I don't think she had a name; oh, and the Benny Hill shows. Then there was Music from Vienna—I sang The Happy

Wanderer in that—and the young Marie Lloyd just before Christmas."

Then Diana told me about two of her films. There was The Ship in the Forest, in which the children searched for treasure buried in a ship that had been lying beneath the forest since Saxon days. The latest was The Stolen Air Liner, in which the children become airborne when crooks steal the ZO9 and Diana makes a parachute jump (but not from a great height—just ten feet was sufficient for the film "take").

Diana went on to tell me about some of the records she has made,



Diana Day

including one for children, telling the story of Susan and the Fairy Pixies.

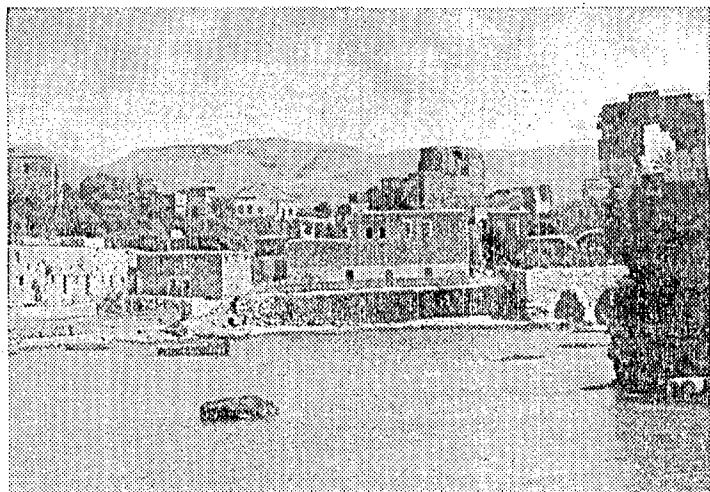
On top of all this has come her appearance in a Christmas show in London's West End.

No doubt Diana has had luck on her side. She has the right looks for a child star, she is small and gay, and she has been helped on her way by her family. But that is not the whole story.

Diana hardly ever has to give an audition nowadays; what she has done, she has obviously done well, and she is constantly in demand. But nobody could have put Diana where she is if she had not been equal to the demands of show business.



## THIS SEAPORT NAMED OUR BIBLE



THE little Lebanese village of Jbail, on the eastern shore of the Mediterranean, has a special claim to our interest.

The Greeks knew it as Byblos and gave its name to the papyrus plants they imported as writing material, from which early books were made. And our English word Bible derives from the Greek word for "books," and so is directly related to the name of this far-away fishing village.

A CN correspondent recently visited this little village, and sends us these notes.

I went to Jbail from Beirut, 20 miles or so south along the Tripoli road. Men were hanging out their nets to dry by the harbour in much the same way as they must have done in Ancient Greek times. Fishing boats drifted into port past a wall that was once part of Crusader fortifications. Granite columns lay half buried in the sand, washed by the same waters that carried Phoenician ships to Egypt with timber for the Pharaohs.

In the village shepherds with flowing headresses drove their flocks past a mosque and through a gateway in a wall built by the Crusaders. Veiled women made their way along the tin-roofed markets, bright with shiny pots and pans, coloured silks and vegetables.

### CRUSADERS' CHURCH

The Catholic church looked as though it might have come from any English hamlet. It was built by the Crusaders in the 12th century and has a fine Norman style baptistry, with dog-tooth ornament.

We had taken a picnic lunch, and as we sat down on some rocks by the sea to eat, a young woman called to us from a nearby house and ran over with water and two loaves of khubs, flat round Arab bread. A little boy climbed the cliff to pick us flowers. The girl spoke English and later asked us indoors for tea, which we gladly accepted.

Perhaps the friendliness towards strangers of the people of modern Jbail is in part due to the fact that in the past they have had to endure so many of them. The Crusaders, who came in 1104, stayed 200 years. The Assyrians, Persians, Romans, and Byzantines also held the place under their sway.

The best view of the ancient city is from the keep of the ruined Crusader castle. A series of seven walls has been discovered and

there are remains of houses and narrow streets, crowding round a succession of Phoenician temples, the earliest dating from about 3000 B.C.

Jbail is also famed in classical legend. The god Adonis is said to have met his death while hunting at the source of a nearby river, and there was a yearly pilgrimage to a temple there. There are iron deposits in the hills through which the river runs, and in February and March the water turns red, discolouring the Mediterranean for miles at its mouth.

For centuries the people of Jbail believed that this was from the blood of the young god, and though the temple has been long since destroyed—by the Emperor Constantine—local pilgrims still hang bits of clothing from their sick people on a fig tree there, hoping that this will bring them back to health.

## Talking of Weather

The British climate is no joking matter, at any rate for farmers and gardeners. Too many of them have known the heartbreak of seeing healthy crops ruined and labour wasted by its vagaries. To help them guard against our wayward climate the Ministry of Agriculture has prepared a booklet called *Weather and the Land* (Stationery Office, 3s.).

Boys and girls as well as farmers will find this a useful book. It explains, for instance, why East Anglia and the Midlands are the main wheat growing areas of the country, why hay-making starts in May in southern England and not until July or early August in the north of Scotland, and many other relationships between the climate and life in our islands.

The chapter on how to make your own area weather forecast is of particular interest, but for those who lack confidence in their prophetic powers, the telephone numbers of different meteorological offices are given.

This book will certainly make us more weatherwise.

### CONCRETE HOMES FOR FISH

A novel means of increasing the fish in Japanese waters is being tried in the Inland Sea, between Honshu and Awaji Islands.

These Inland Sea fisheries were overfished during the war and stocks need to be built up again. The currents on the sea-bed are liable to sweep the fish far out into the ocean, so a series of 1280 hollow concrete blocks is being sunk in the channel of the Inland Sea. They have openings on all sides and it is hoped they will provide habitations for the bream and sand eels, and the perch and bass, and even the octopus that are sought by Japanese fishermen.

The blocks will slow up the currents and it is hoped the numbers of fish there will increase again.

### NATIONAL HANDWRITING TEST OF 1956

WHAT is your handwriting like? Do you try to write well? If so you will be specially interested in the news that the CN is to hold another great Handwriting Test.

A great number of schools have taken part in these handwriting competitions in the past, and value the CN's encouragement of better handwriting. Thousands of boys and girls have benefited, in many cases gaining worthwhile prizes for their schools as well as themselves.

In the CN Test of 1956 there will be

### MORE THAN 1000 PRIZES

—including cash and other awards for both schools and pupils—the total value of which is Five Hundred Pounds.

As before, this year's Test will be open to all full-time pupils of schools and colleges who are under 17. The special entry forms will be supplied to schools on request.

Full details together with the huge prize list will be found in next week's issue of CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER. Order your copy now, to make sure of it

**NEXT WEEK**

## News from Everywhere

### FLYING FUSELAGE

An aircraft without wings or tail is being made in the U.S. Models have already been successfully flown.

Mount Francis (9060 feet) one of the highest peaks in the Antarctic, has been scaled by three men of the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey team.

Over 500,000 motorcycles are now licensed in Holland—more than all other motor vehicles in the country together.

### LONGER TO LIVE

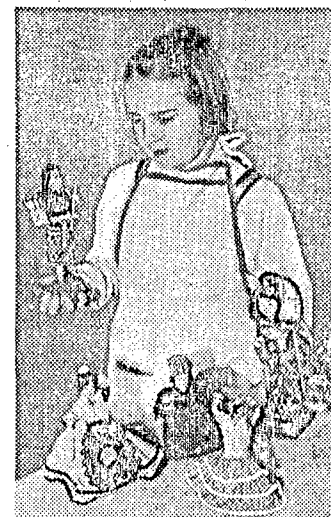
Boys born today can expect to live until they are 67, and girls until they are 73. This is 20 years longer than children born at the beginning of this century.

Britain is to make a grant of £2,000,000 towards hurricane relief in Grenada.

The Royal Navy will wear white-topped caps all the year round after May 1.

Since the turn of the century more than 1,100,000 Scots have emigrated.

### Lucky Polly



Ten-year-old Polly Bullard has a big collection of dolls. They represent folk of many different countries in national costume.

A garage with five floors below street level is to be built in New York.

Britain has made a grant of £1,500,000 to Nigeria for road improvement.

A piece of stone from the Victoria Tower of the Houses of Parliament has been presented to Singapore. It will go into the Legislative Assembly buildings.

### HIDDEN GIFT

The National Spastics Society received a copy of a guide book the other day. Inside were 20 pound notes from an anonymous donor.

Durham County Council is to spend £15,000 in the next five years in reclaiming derelict land and removing slag heaps or planting them with trees.

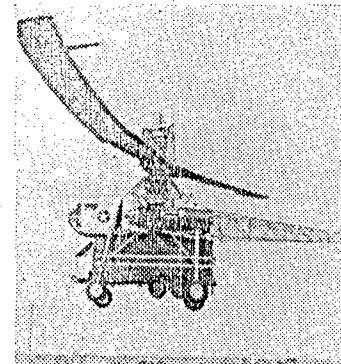
Recent statistics show that there are now fewer cows in the world, but that, through improved techniques they are yielding more milk.

### CATCHING COLD

The common cold research unit at Salisbury needs 600 volunteers this year for experiments.

Fire has destroyed the inn at Sudbury, Massachusetts, which inspired Longfellow's *Tales of a Wayside Inn*.

### The big lift



The world's biggest helicopter, built in the U.S.A., was recently put through its paces. It is seen here, at Culver City in California, hovering with a trailer van, the biggest vehicle ever carried by a helicopter.

The British Motor Corporation exported more motor vehicles last year than any other company in the world.

The Red Indians of North America, once thought to be a dying race, are now steadily multiplying. Thousands are leaving their reservations to find work in the big cities.

### COSY IN THE QUEUE

Shelters at bus stops in Madrid have been fitted with overhead heaters.

A new diesel test house at Derby, the only one of its kind in Europe, is to be built for the maintenance of the diesel locomotives to be constructed under the British Railways modernisation scheme.

A £5,500,000 rubber planting and replanting programme in Malaya has been announced by the Dunlop group.

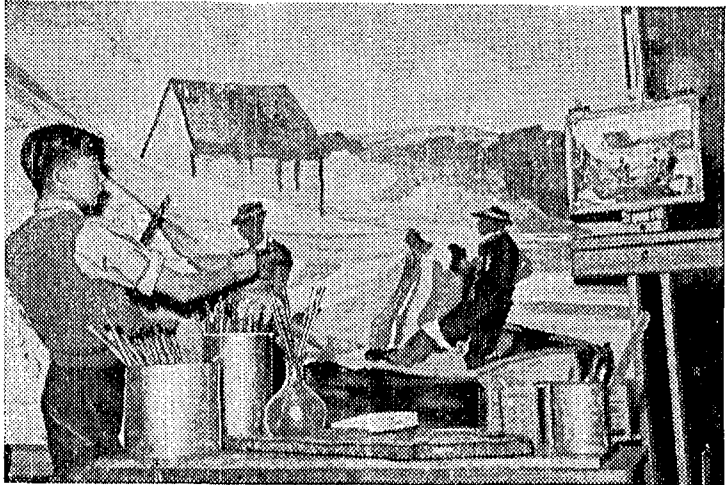
A hailstorm over Hobart, Tasmania, ruined £160,000 worth of apples in five minutes.

### The Cutty Sark



The famous clipper Cutty Sark is now in a permanent berth at Greenwich. In the course of a thorough restoration the final touches are put to the ship's weather vane, which takes the form of a Cutty Sark—or Short's—Shirt.





### A boy and his picture

The walls of the Queen's County Secondary School at Wimbledon, Surrey, are decorated with many fine pictures. Here, 15-year-old Michael Tapping works on a new one, *The Sailmaker*.

### TOY THEATRE COLLECTION

A great quantity of fascinating toy theatre material, collected privately over a period of nearly 60 years, has been presented to the Victoria and Albert Museum in London.

Miniature theatres, with their cut-out figures of actors, were very popular with children in the last century.

The examples in this fine collection range in date from 1811 to 1900. There are thousands of sheets of scenery and characters both plain and coloured, and over 200 texts of the plays the Victorian boys and girls produced. Some of the sheets have the figures of early 19th-century actors.

The collection covers a wider range than the similar ones at the British or London Museums, and is a fine addition to the Victoria and Albert's treasures.

### ONE WAY TO PAY THE RENT

An old tradition has been revived in London by the presentation to the Lord Mayor of a boar's head on a silver charger by the Master of the Butchers' Company.

This boar's head represents the rent formerly paid by the butchers of St. Nicholas Shambles, the old meat market at Newgate, for a small piece of ground near Seacole Lane. It was first leased as long ago as 1343 and was beside the banks of the River Fleet, which is now only a drain.

### CHAMPION TELEPHONE TALKERS

The most chatty people in the world on the phone are the Canadians, according to the Bell Telephone Company. The average number of phone conversations in one year was 417 for every head of the population. But as many of them are without phones and babies do not use them, some Canadians must have spent much of their time in telephone talk.

Icelanders came second with 394 talks each, and then the Americans with 393.

The U.S. has 52 million telephones, Britain 6½ millions, and Canada 3½ millions. Altogether, the world has 94,500,000.

### KINDLY CUBS

The Wolf Cubs have started 1956—their fortieth anniversary year—by adopting handicapped children of their own age, from eight to eleven.

The idea is to share as many interests as possible, including some out-of-doors activities, and to have a series of simple tests of the Wolf Cub type.

Children who cannot go out will be visited regularly by Cubs and brought into the pack life where practicable. Indeed, some packs have already found, from public health authorities and doctors, the names and addresses of handicapped children who are living at home, and not so easily found as in hospitals or institutions, whom Cubs could help.

### THE SERGEANT-MAJOR RETIRES

Hundreds of schoolboys have jumped to attention on the command of Sergeant-Major Sanday, who has just retired from his post with Rossall School Combined Cadet Force, after 25 years' service. A former Grenadier Guardsman, he was for several years an instructor at Sandhurst.

The Cadet Force at Rossall, near Fleetwood, was formed in 1860.



### They shall have music

Zandra, Rina, and Orna are three of a party of South Africans who recently landed in this country for a music-lovers' tour. During their stay they will hear 20 concerts.

### THIS LAUNCH CAN BLOW ITSELF OFF MUDBANKS

A hydraulic jet-propelled motor-launch which can blow itself off a mudbank should it run aground has been launched near Colchester.

This new-style launch, which has a draught of only eleven inches and is specially designed for operating in shallow or weedy waterways, has no propeller or rudder. Water is sucked in from the bows through a pipe and this is expelled again in a powerful jet through the stern.

Simply by reversing the jet stream, the launch can be brought from full speed ahead to a dead stop in a distance of less than its own length. This boat is thus very manoeuvrable.

### CHANCE OF A LIFETIME

David MacLachlan, who works in a Leith shipyard, longed to visit his sister in New Zealand; but he could spare neither the time nor the money.

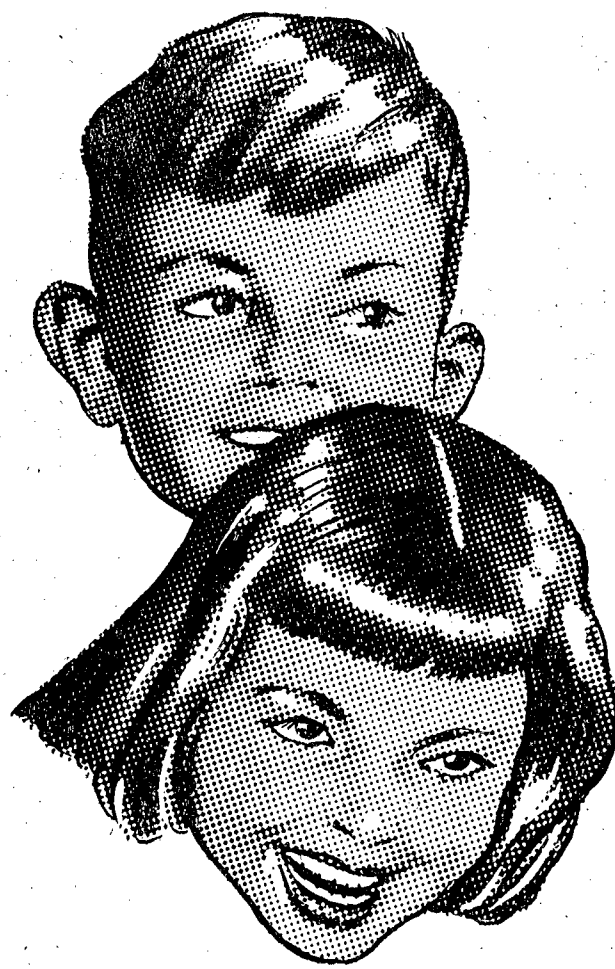
A few weeks ago he was working on a ship preparing to go to sea. The night she was due to sail, her skipper was a man short. He asked young MacLachlan if he would like to work his passage to New Zealand that same night. David accepted the offer, ran home, packed, kissed his mother goodbye, and jumped aboard.

So David is now enjoying himself in New Zealand.

### NEARLY A TON OF TAPESTRY

Coventry Cathedral has received an anonymous gift of £20,000 to cover the cost of the great tapestry to be hung in the new building. The donor wishes his gift to be dedicated to all Coventry-born citizens who, like himself, have tried to make their city a better place.

The tapestry, designed by Mr. Graham Sutherland, will be 77 feet high, 40 feet wide, and will weigh three-quarters of a ton.



## KEEP IN STEP WITH THE "Sculptorcraft" TWINS

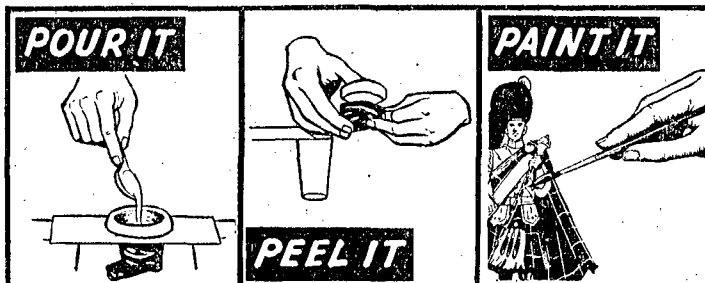
... Making models from rubber moulds the Sculptorcraft way. Thousands of children enjoy this wonderful and profitable pastime.

- ① over 200 individual moulds from which to choose.
- ② complete outfits in the Walt Disney, Enid Blyton series.
- ③ simple to do, just pour in the liquid plaster, peel off the rubber mould and paint in the glorious colours supplied.

## Sculptorcraft

BY SEAMER PRODUCTS (SCULPTORCRAFT) LTD., 23/27 EASTBOURNE ST.,

HULL. WRITE TO-DAY TO DEPT. C/N3 FOR FULL DETAILS OF ALL MOULDS & OUTFITS AVAILABLE.





## REVIVING THE PROGRAMMES OF YESTERYEAR

ON the fifth floor of Broadcasting House, London, is a vast treasure chest of lost chords and forgotten melodies. I refer to the library of tape and disc recordings.

The thought of so much valuable material in permanent cold storage is beginning to worry the BBC, as I discovered the other day when talking with Brian George, the Recordings Chief.

He told me that many of these programmes date back more than 20 years. Some were made in BBC studios, others recorded by

commentators and radio travellers in different parts of the world.

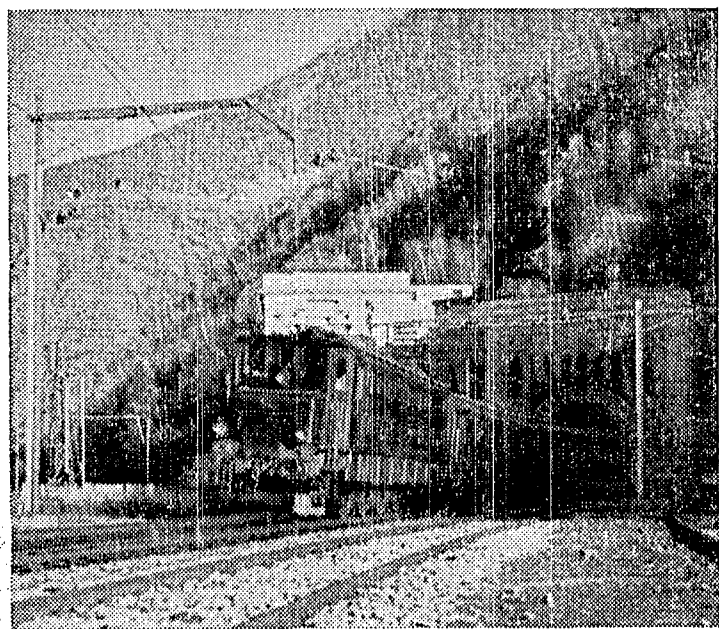
The revival of two old ITMA programmes at Christmas was the first step in a new scheme to give present-day listeners some of these treasures of the past. During 1956 we can expect to hear many more famous programmes culled from the archives on the fifth floor.

A start is already being made with *In Search of Music in the Light* on Thursday afternoons, consisting of songs and tunes recorded in many countries over the past ten years.

### Jubilee of a tunnel

TUNNELS are making news these days. Last week I mentioned that a Commercial TV firm is planning to use the old Kingsway tram tunnel in London as a television studio. Now BBC Children's Hour has a tunnel scheme, too.

I hear that John Lane may go to Switzerland soon to make recordings in the famous Simplon railway tunnel. The programme will commemorate the jubilee of the tunnel's completion in 1906. It is 12½ miles long and links Switzerland with Northern Italy.



The Swiss end of the Simplon Tunnel

### Visit to a VC's historic home

TO mark the centenary of the institution of the Victoria Cross, BBC Television's At Home programme this Wednesday will visit Lord De L'Isle and Dudley, V.C., at Penshurst Place, Kent.

This lovely old mansion, part of which dates back to the reign of Edward III, has a two-fold connection with the V.C. As well as the Cross won at Anzio by its present owner, then Major Sidney, the highest decoration for valour was also awarded to the father of Lady De L'Isle and Dudley, the late Field-Marshal Viscount Gort.

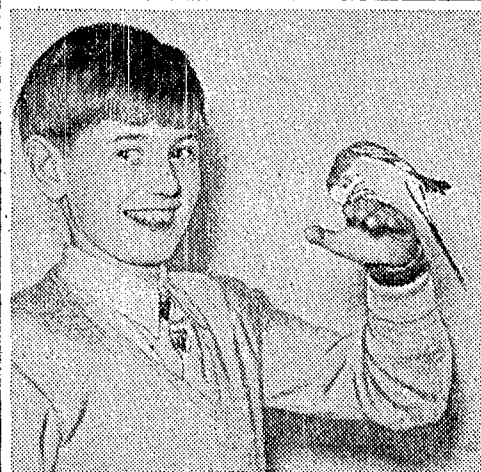
Penshurst has been the home of the Sidney family since Tudor times. The first Dudley to live there was Sir William, Chamberlain to Henry VIII. His grandson was Sir Philip Sidney, the hero of the battle of Zutphen.

Richard Dumbleby will take viewers into the famous Baron's Hall with its open hearth and the long tables which have stood on each side for about 500 years

### Commercial TV in the Midlands

COMMERCIAL TV in the Midlands is brought a step nearer with the start of test signals from the new 450-foot transmitter tower at Lichfield.

The Lord Mayor of Birmingham will inaugurate the new service on February 17.



### Old books and new books

CHILDREN'S HOUR has quite a bookish flavour on Thursday. Scotland will contribute dramatised excerpts from children's stories which were once widely read but are now almost forgotten.

Afterwards Nerina Shute will talk about the very latest children's books. You may have had one or more of them at Christmas.

### VHF expands

I SHALL never forget my trip last May to Wrotham, Kent, for the opening of the BBC's first Very High Frequency radio station. It was the first time I had heard radio completely free from the slightest sound of interference and with such faithful quality that the orchestra seemed to be in the same room.

There are now four VHF sound transmitters in Britain—at Wrotham, at Penmon near Anglesey, Pontop Pike near Newcastle, and Wenvoe near Cardiff, the last two having been opened in the past few weeks.

The BBC say that VHF broadcasting is now within reach of 18 million people and that, so far, some 500,000 VHF receiving sets have been manufactured. By the end of this year it is hoped to have ten permanent VHF stations and one temporary one, all broadcasting the Home, Light, and Third programmes.

Eventually it is planned that VHF broadcasting shall cover the whole country.

### Opera written for TV

MUSIC-LOVERS are waiting eagerly for the first opera ever composed specially for television. Called *Mañana* (Tomorrow), it was written for BBC Television by the Australian-born composer Arthur Benjamin, and will be seen by viewers on February 1.

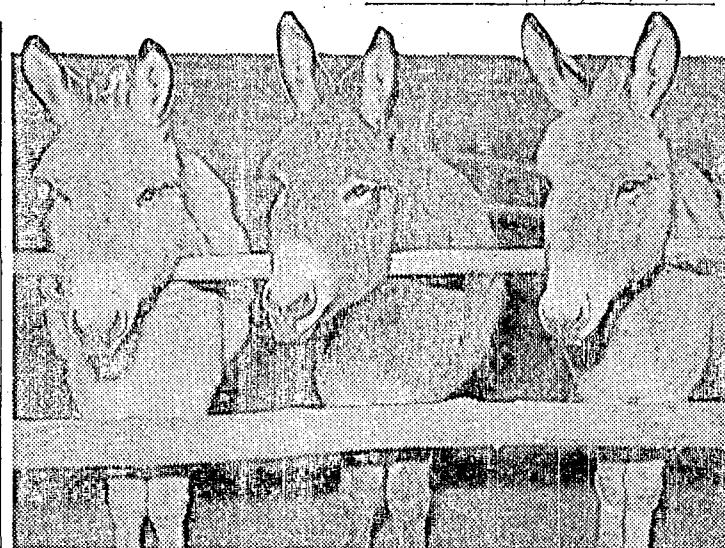
Producer George Foa emphasises that it was intended for television from the start. In fact, the camera shots were worked out even before the music was composed.

The story is about a Wise Man in an imaginary Spanish village who prophesies the end of the world next day. Hence the title of the opera.

ERNEST THOMSON

### Busy young actor

A young actor who is becoming increasingly in demand for TV and radio is 14-year-old Colin Gibson. At present he is appearing in TV's *Whirligig*.



### Safe at home for the winter

After a summer out in the open at various homes, Gert, Patrick, and Daisy, are back at Cherry Tree Farm near Lingfield in Surrey. To prevent their being slaughtered, they were bought by the International League for the Protection of Horses.

### IT HAPPENED THIS WEEK

## Nelson laid to rest

JANUARY 9, 1806. LONDON—In dazzling sunshine the miles-long funeral procession of Admiral Lord Nelson, victor of Trafalgar, wound through the heart of the capital to St. Paul's today.

The drums began beating to gather this great cortege an hour before dawn and it was still dark when the mourners began assembling in St. James's Park. They included the Duke of York and his aides-de-camp, and no fewer than 31 Admirals and 100 Captains in full-dress uniform with black waistcoats.

By 8.30, when the great bell of St. Paul's began to toll, every doorway and balcony and window along the whole route, from the Admiralty to the Cathedral, was crammed with people awaiting the passing of the funeral procession.

but it was almost noon before the last part of the procession reached the Horse Guards.

At the Admiralty the coffin was carried out to a funeral car designed to represent Admiral Nelson's famous flagship, with the name H.M.S. Victory on its lantern.

The Scots Guards led the procession. At the steps of St. Paul's 12 men from the Victory carried the coffin from the car.

It was arranged that the ceremony would end with the men of the Victory laying the ship's colours over the coffin. When the moment came the sailors' feelings overwhelmed them and they tore from the ensign a great piece and each man took off a shred to preserve it as a memento of his beloved commander.

## Death of Lewis Carroll

JANUARY 14, 1898. GUILDFORD—There died here today at the age of 66 a mathematician named Charles Lutwidge Dodgson, the author of a number of works on mathematics, algebra, and geometry, known to a handful of professors and students.

But this man also wrote other books, and by the name under which he wrote those books he was known and beloved by millions.

For Mr. Dodgson was also "Lewis Carroll" creator of Alice,

whose adventures in Wonderland and Through the Looking Glass have captivated children and their parents ever since they appeared in 1865 and 1871 respectively.

These stories were first written only to amuse one little girl—Alice, second daughter of Dean Liddell—and "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" was first told to her on a river excursion.

On its first appearance in print, beautifully illustrated by John Tenniel, it was an immediate success.

## Archbishop's refusal

JANUARY 15, 1559. LONDON—Doctor Nicholas Heath, Archbishop of York, refused to crown Queen Elizabeth at Westminster Abbey today because she had insisted that certain parts of the service should be read in English instead of Latin.

The Bishop of Carlisle was persuaded to officiate at the last minute and had to borrow vestments from the Bishop of London.

Many at the Abbey were moved to tears when the 25-year-old Queen, dark-eyed and very pale, knelt at the Altar and in a clear voice recited the Lord's Prayer.

During the ceremony of Anointing, the Queen made a gesture of distaste, and the Bishop of Carlisle later explained that Her Majesty was offended by the oil. "The oil," she said, "was grease, and smelt ill."



# THE WORST OF KINGS IN THE BEST OF FILMS



Earl Rivers, played  
by Clive Morton



Queen Elizabeth, played  
by Mary Kerridge



The Archbishop of Canter-  
bury (Nicholas Hannen)

It is possible, writes our Film Critic, that many schoolmasters will object to the new film of Richard III—as some critics have objected to it—because it is not a faithful reproduction of the play by Shakespeare. At the beginning of the film itself, this fact is admitted; we are told that it includes “some interpolations by David Garrick, Colley Cibber, etc.”—and the “etc.” probably includes Sir Laurence Olivier, who produced and directed the film as well as taking the principal part himself.

There is, however, one thing that should always be remembered: a film is something in its own right. It does not *need* to be a faithful reproduction of a play, or a book, or whatever it may be founded on; in fact, it *should* not be such a reproduction. It would be possible to photograph a performance of the play—but it would not be a good film.

## SPLENDID TO LOOK AT

At all events, this is a very good, well-acted, and interesting film—although you must remember that it is not exactly as Shakespeare wrote it. Apart from the non-Shakespearean words (there are not really very many of these), there are changes in the position of some of the scenes. One reason for that is that the film, unlike the play, is not divided into acts, and runs for nearly 2½ hours.

This is unusually long, of course, for a film, but every moment is made so entertaining in one way or another that most of you will find your interest is held all the time.

One of the chief reasons for this is that the film is made so splendid to look at. Those of you who have seen pictures by artists of the 15th and 16th centuries will often be reminded of them: sometimes it is as if some painting from the National Gallery has come to life. Another very important reason is Sir Laurence Olivier's performance as the wicked Duke of Gloucester who becomes King Richard III.

He is a thorough villain, a man who takes such a delight in his own wickedness that



Sir Laurence Olivier as Richard III

sometimes what he says about it is, for a moment, funny—and Sir Laurence makes him seem all the more horrifyingly wicked by taking every chance to emphasise these comic effects. It is because they raise a laugh, at the moment, that the wickedness seems more dreadful a minute later.

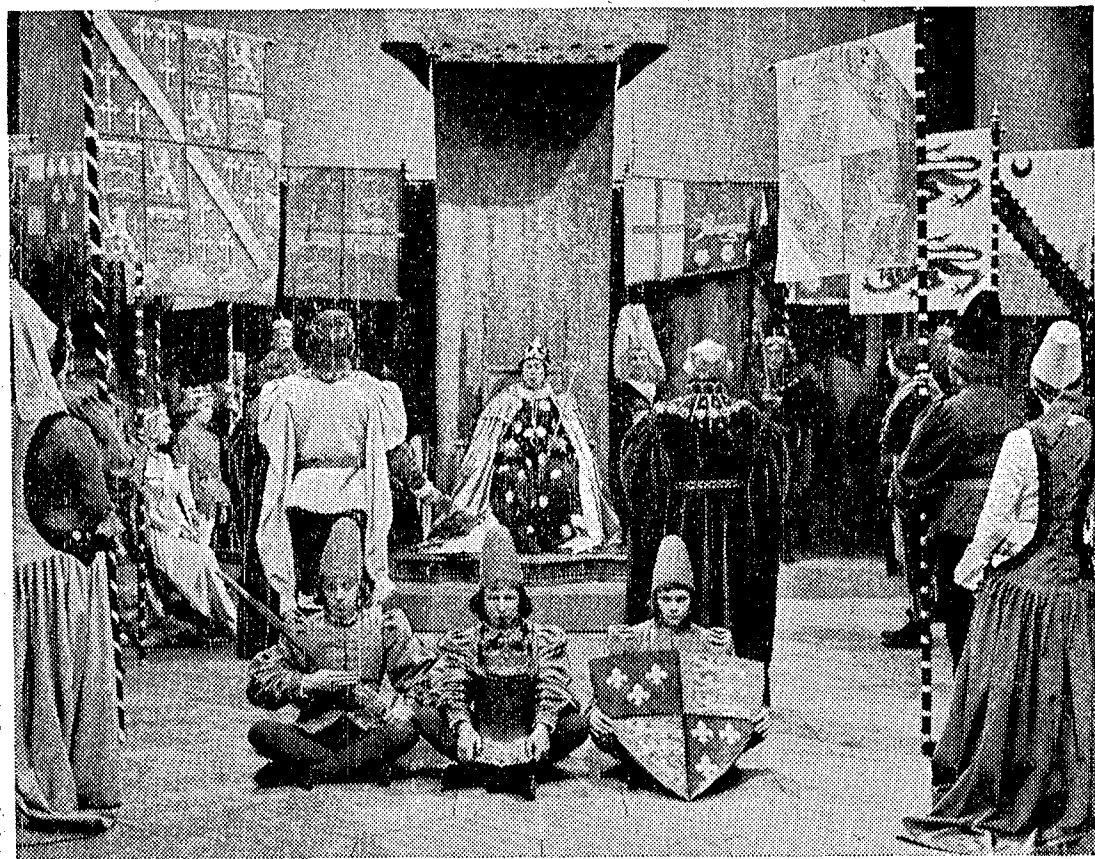
As he carries out his villainous plan to succeed to the throne by getting rid of everyone who stands in his way, Richard often cannot resist telling himself—and the audience—how clever he is being; and soliloquies of this kind are nearly always amusing. Before and after them come the dreadful deeds: the drowning of his brother Clarence in a butt of wine, the murder of the little princes in the Tower, and all the other villainies associated with this king's name.

At the end comes the big scene of the Battle of Bosworth, which is wonderfully shown: again, it is as if an old painting of such a battle has been set in motion.

Altogether it is a very impressive film, and although Sir Laurence is the outstanding figure there are many other famous actors and actresses who give fine performances. Certainly it is not exactly Shakespeare's play; but, after all, why should it try to be?



Richard, on the eve of the Battle of Bosworth, gives final orders to Sir William Catesby (Norman Wooland)



The newly-crowned Edward IV (Sir Cedric Hardwicke) holds court in the palace



Richard persuades the young Princes to enter the Tower



# Children's Newspaper

John Carpenter House  
Whitefriars . London . EC4  
JANUARY 14 ..... 1956

## YOUR JOB

MORE than 2000 boys and girls met the other day in Westminster's Central Hall for the yearly Tomorrow's Citizens conference organised by the Council for Education in World Citizenship. And they heard speeches by Lord Attlee and Mr. Selwyn Lloyd which they will not forget.

Both speakers reminded their young audience of the duty of each and every one to take an interest in politics.

Mr. Selwyn Lloyd said: "What you have to do is to build up a well-informed, active, militant body of young public opinion behind this ideal of world authority, with sufficient authority to see the rule of law between nations is maintained and peace is thereby made permanent."

Lord Attlee said: "War began in the minds of ordinary men. A great many people responsible for war are the last people you think of—the sort of man you see going up on the 8.15 for business: an admirable father, but he does not take any interest in politics."

"The point we make in the United Nations is that it is not somebody else's job. It is your job. If you want to save yourselves, your families, your country, and the world from destruction it is up to you."

Young people often get laughed at for trying to put the world to rights. Yet that is precisely their most important job—to try, and keep on trying, to make the world a better place.



OUR HOMELAND

# The Editor's Table

## GOLD IN THE GORBALS

THIS story of good neighbours comes from one of Britain's worst slum areas.

In the Gorbals of Glasgow, a minister, the Rev. J. Cameron Peddie, was involved in a smash on his way home from visiting some sick people, and his car was a total wreck.

When one lady in his congregation heard the sad news, she launched a "car-for-the-minister fund."

The people of the Gorbals, knowing how much their minister needed a car, gave generously from their modest earnings and the other day a cheque for £400 was presented to the minister.

Says Mr. Peddie: "The real value of the gift isn't in the cash. It's the golden value that lies behind it—the gold in the heart of the Gorbals."

## Spear and shield

This Chinese fable, stressing the pitfalls of boasting, is more than 2000 years old. We reprint it here with the permission of China Reconstructs, an excellent English-language magazine published in Peking by the China Welfare Institute.

LONG, long ago, in the land of Chu, there was a man who made shields and spears. "Buy my shields!" he would say. "They are very strong. Nothing in the world can penetrate them!"

He also lauded his spears, saying: "My spears are the sharpest in the world. They are so sharp they can pierce anything!"

One day someone asked him: "If we use one of your spears to pierce one of your shields, what then?"

The man from the land of Chu could find no answer.

## HOW SWEET THE BELLS!

DEAR bells! how sweet the sound of village bells. When on the undulating air they swim! Now loud as welcomes! faint, now, as farewells!

Thomas Hood

## Marching On

THE Boys' Brigade is steadily marching forward. From its last annual report we learn that its strength at home has increased, and that there has been promising development overseas, in thirty different countries. The total world strength of the Boys' Brigade, including the Life Boys (the Junior Reserve) is now 200,923.

Our oldest youth movement is to be congratulated on its progress. Long may it thrive!

## Prizewinner



This appealing study of a Japanese child won a prize for the photographer

## Think on These Things

ALL kinds of different things can separate people from one another—differences of age, of race, of colour.

When Christianity came into the world, one of the great differences was between the Jew and the person who was not a Jew—the Gentile. But, with the coming of Christ, there was a complete change. St. Paul could point to the fact that, in the Christian Church, Jew and Gentile were one. They were brothers sharing in the same worship, and the same service.

Whatever the differences between us we are all needing the help that Christ alone can give. For we are one in Him.

What really matters is the fact that we are all God's children whom Christ died to save.

O. R. C.

## Thirty Years Ago

From the Children's Newspaper, January 16, 1926

SIXTEEN million people in England, Scotland, and Wales will have cause to remember the coming of 1926—everyone, that is, who is over 16 and under 70 and works with his hand or brain for a wage of £250 or less.

All these people now become entitled to a pension of 10s. a week at 65; and when they die their widows will get 10s. a week, and their children from 3s. to 7s. 6d. while they are under 14.

## JUST AN IDEA

As Dr. Johnson wrote: Where there is no hope there can be no endeavour.

## THEY SAY...

ENGLISH children are the best-mannered in Europe.

"Mrs. America of 1956," after a tour of Europe

THERE is nothing wrong with our young people that cannot be quickly put right. If they are given the background of a holy, healthy family life, they will not fail us.

Rev. Dr. H. C. Whitley, Minister of St. Giles's Cathedral, Edinburgh

THE Columbus who will travel to the moon has probably been born already.

Professor Harrie Massey

WHEN I left school in 1918 I had been told nothing about atomic energy. I was taught that the atom was indivisible and indestructible, and that was that.

Major-General S. W. Joslin, of the Atomic Energy Authority

## QUIZ CORNER

1. In what sport is it possible to get a "duck's egg" and a "pair of spectacles"?
2. What exactly is a sardine?
3. "From Log Cabin to White House"—of whom is this true?
4. Each of the Queen's children—Prince Charles and Princess Anne—has three other names. What are they?
5. "Cleanliness is next to godliness." Is this a quotation from the Bible?
6. Essex, Middlesex, and Surrey are three of the Home Counties. There are four others; can you name them?

Answers on page 12

## Out and About

THERE is a special pleasure in seeing a comparatively rare bird. On a hill near the sea, bleak in the winter wind, there was a call, like a greenfinch's *quee*, and a snow bunting flew up from its nest on the rough ground.

There was no mistaking the white underparts and neck, and the wings mostly white and black. Before it rose too high there was time also to see that the back was light brown, the tail black with a touch of white at the end.

This lovely snow bunting does not mind our cold, for it comes here from the Arctic in the early autumn and stays until late Spring. Except along our east coast and some mountainous places in Scotland it is seldom seen. The only really common bunting in Britain is the corn bunting, which is often mistaken for a skylark.

C. D. D.

The Children's Newspaper, January 14, 1956

## Next Week's Birthdays

### January 15

Marjorie Fleming (1803-1811). Sir Walter Scott's child friend, "Pet Marjorie." Although she died of measles before she was nine, she left several literary "Works" behind her, among them a gay, inconsequential and delightful diary, and a solemn little life of Mary Queen of Scots in rhyme.



### January 16

Robert Service (1874). Poet. Born in Preston, he emigrated to Canada and lived the rough life of the wild North-West of those days. This inspired his verse which was much influenced by Kipling. Perhaps his most famous book of poems is Rhymes of a Red Cross Man, based on his experiences in the First World War.

### January 17

Anton Chekhov (1860-1904). Russian dramatist and short story writer. He had been trained as a doctor, and the influences of medical training constantly appear in his plays. They portray the Russian middle classes of the 19th century and are, perhaps, the most delicately wrought comedies ever written.

### January 18

Peter Mark Roget (1779-1869). Originator of the famous Thesaurus (Treasury) of English Words and Phrases. He started the work as a young man with a simple list for his own use, but it was not until he was over 70 that he could spare time to expand it for publication.

### January 19

Sir Henry Bessemer (1813-1898). Engineer and inventor of the steel-making process that bears his name. He revolutionised industry by making the production of cheap steel possible.



### January 20

Marquis of Aberdeen (1879). Scottish peer. Politics and local government have claimed a large part of his attention. A member of the L.C.C. for many years, and chairman of the Greater London Regional Planning Committee.

### January 21

Sir Grimwood Mears (1869). Lawyer and judge. In 1914 he gave up a lucrative legal practice to investigate German war crimes, at the request of the Government. He was also secretary to the Royal Commission set up to investigate the causes of the Irish Rebellion.



The Children's Newspaper, January 14, 1956

# AMERICA'S GREAT MAN OF IDEAS

*Men of science all over the world will pay tribute next week to the memory of Benjamin Franklin, who was born on January 17 just 250 years ago. In more than 40 countries scientific societies will honour this versatile American genius—inventor, statesman, and great worker for the cause of peace.*

THOUGH he was so much more than an inventor, Benjamin Franklin is chiefly remembered as the man who proved that lightning and electricity are the same thing. This he did by flying a kite in a thunderstorm, the experiment that gave us lightning conductors. The one he fitted to London's St. Paul's Cathedral in 1769 remained perfect for over a century and a half.

Lesser items in the rich variety of his inventiveness were new globes for street lamps, a new

youth bought three loaves, and holding two under his arms, walked along the street munching the other. A girl in a doorway laughed at his odd appearance—totally unaware that she was destined to become his wife.

He soon found work as a printer, and later started a business of his own, prospering exceedingly. But riches were never his object. Thus in 1742 he refused a patent for his new stove, saying: "As we enjoy great advantages from the inventions of others, we should be glad of an opportunity to serve others by any invention of ours, and this we should do freely and generously."

He lived to serve his fellow men; not only by his inventions, but by much good advice, often presented in the form of proverbs sprinkled in his famous publication, Poor



Benjamin Franklin

From the portrait by Joseph Duplessis in the New York Metropolitan Museum of Art.

kind of stove, bi-focal spectacles, musical glasses, a three-wheel clock, a chair and step ladder combined, a wooden arm for taking books from high shelves. He also promoted public libraries, fire insurance, street paving and cleaning, police protection; and he thought of daylight saving 132 years before it was first introduced.

This versatile man was born in 1706 at Boston, Massachusetts, the son of a candle-maker. He had little schooling, and after working for a tyrannical brother, a printer, he ran away to Philadelphia with only a dollar in his pocket.

Hungry and bedraggled, the

## SOME WISE WORDS OF BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

He that cannot obey, cannot command.

Diligence is the mother of good luck.

God helps them that help themselves.

The worst wheel of the cart makes the most noise.

Being ignorant is not so much a shame as being unwilling to learn.

A good example is the best sermon.

He that riseth late must trot all day.

Richard's Almanack, a store of information, published annually, which was immensely popular with the American settlers of Franklin's day. Many time-honoured household sayings have been attributed to him.

Vastly respected by everyone in America, Benjamin Franklin held public office there, and in 1757 was chosen to represent the Colonists in England. At first he was honoured, but the clouds of strife

Continued in next column

## Attractive work

The making of magnets presents a special problem in mutual attraction. Visitors learned this the other day during the opening of an extension to a great magnet factory in Sheffield.

Thousands of magnets of all shapes and sizes and strengths are exported from here all over the world.

The problem of making magnets in a factory is to make sure that they do not become magnets too soon, otherwise what a tremendous pulling power in the building there would be! The magnets themselves would all get stuck together, while any steel tools or furniture would be attracted into the collection.

### SENT OUT DEMAGNETISED

So all through the process of magnet-making great care must be taken. Eighty per cent of the magnets from this firm are, in fact, sent out demagnetised and the buyers magnetise them. The other twenty per cent are not magnetised in the works until the last possible moment before being sent out.

Magnets are used in television, motor and cycle engineering, electricity meters, thermostats, railway signalling, coal-mining, generators, measuring instruments, and a host of other types of equipment.

Twenty years ago this firm made 100,000 magnets every month. Now the monthly total is well over 500,000.

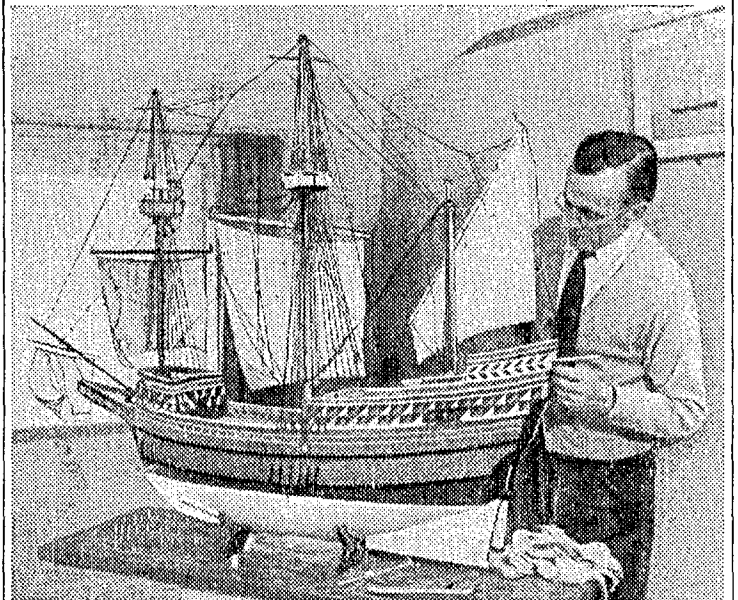
later brought insult and denouncement from those who upheld George the Third's foolish policy towards the Colonists in America.

The frustrated peacemaker returned sadly to his fellow-countrymen who sent him to Paris to win the support of France in their struggle. At the end of the War of Independence he helped to negotiate peace between Britain and the new U.S.A.

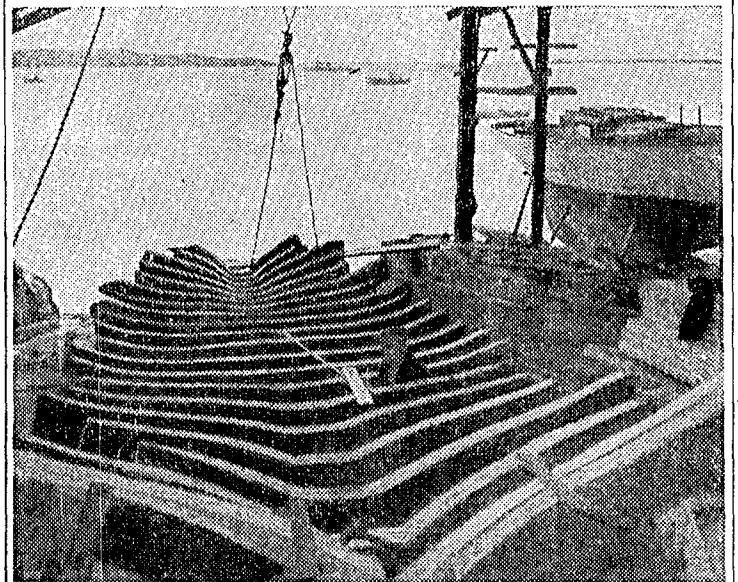
He was growing old then, but his fertile imagination was still astir with ideas for the improvement of human life. In the very year of his death, 1790, he was urging the abolition of slavery.

A truly great man whose best epitaph is one of his own sayings: "What is serving God? 'Tis doing good to man."

## NEW MAYFLOWER



In a shipbuilder's yard at Brixham in Devon the frame of Mayflower II is taking shape. She is a replica of the famous ship that carried the Pilgrim Fathers to America over 300 years ago. On July 4 she will set sail for the United States with a cargo of some of Britain's best goods. Above, Mr. Stuart Upham, in whose yards the ship is being built, works on the scale model. Below, the heavy keel and flat ribs of the vessel herself, exactly copying the design of the original, and suggestive of strength and endurance rather than speed.



### SPORTING STREETS

Two streets in a new housing estate in the suburbs of Auckland, New Zealand, have been named after sportsmen.

One is Rabone Street, named after Geoff Rabone, captain of the New Zealand cricket team which toured South Africa; and the other is Nepia Street, after George Nepia, the Maori Rugby fullback.

### BIG BONE ON THE BEACH

Ronald Pestell stumbled over a big bone while walking on the beach near his home at Eccles, Norfolk. It was later identified as the jaw-bone of a mammoth and as being 500,000 years old.

Weighing 1½ stones, the jaw held a worn-down tooth with a new one which had started growing when the animal died.

## STAMP ALBUM



BORROWED  
DESIGN



THE POSTAGE DUE STAMP ON THE LEFT WAS ISSUED BY THE U.S. IN 1879. THE STAMP ON THE RIGHT, ISSUED BY AUSTRALIA IN 1902, IS ALMOST IDENTICAL, EXCEPT FOR THE TINY KANGAROO AND EMU IN PLACE OF THE INITIALS U and S.



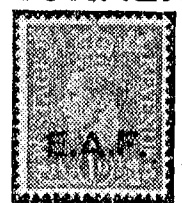
CHANGE  
OF NAME



CURAÇAO WAS THE NAME OF THE DUTCH WEST INDIAN COLONY UNTIL 1948. THEN THE NAME WAS CHANGED TO NEDERLANDSE ANTILLEN TO INCLUDE OTHER WEST INDIAN POSSESSIONS. THE FIRST ISSUE OF NEW STAMPS ALSO COMMEMORATED THE 450TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DISCOVERY OF CURAÇAO, SO BOTH NAMES APPEARED. NOW ONLY THE NEW NAME IS USED.



## ? PUZZLE CORNER ?



This British stamp was overprinted during the war for use abroad.

- (A) Where?  
(B) What do the letters E.A.F. mean?

Answers  
on back page.



## HOW THEY WILL SEE US ALL IN AD 2955

The French children's paper, Benjamin, recently celebrated its third birthday and enlivened the occasion with features of the kind it may print in a thousand years' time. Here, for instance, is a learned professor of 2955 writing about the "primitive" people of 1955; that is, us.

He notes that they: "had never left their planet, much less the solar system. They spoke hundreds of languages and formed dozens of different nations. They believed there would always be wars. They wore hats; we don't know why because they had hair on their heads like us. Their women painted their faces with products, damaging to the skin, and the men thought that it made them more beautiful."

### HAD TO INVENT POLICE

"They covered the walls of their towns with posters encouraging themselves to buy things for which they had not enough money. They did not know how to manufacture food but killed animals and took eggs from under hens to eat. They elected governments but would not obey them, and had to invent police to enforce obedience. They were afraid of lightning, and they chewed gum to amuse themselves."

Another prophetic item in this lively French journal concerns a child who has gone off alone in his father's flying saucer, and is found wandering in space by the "Mars Cosmic Security Patrol."


When asked why he took the machine, he said he wanted to visit his grandmother on Venus!

### THEIR FIRST MOTOR SHOW

The first Motor Show ever held in Mexico will open in Mexico City shortly.

British as well as American and Continental cars will be on display, together with motor cycles, motor scooters, and motor boats.

## Sporting Flashbacks



**BOTH GOALKEEPERS SCORED**  
(FROM PENALTY KICKS)  
IN A SCOTTISH LEAGUE FOOTBALL MATCH  
BETWEEN MOTHERWELL AND THIRD LANARK  
IN 1910...

BROWNIE (ON LEFT)  
FOR THIRD  
LANARK,  
HAMPTON FOR  
MOTHERWELL

DOWN THE YEARS THERE  
HAVE BEEN SEVERAL  
CASES OF GOALKEEPERS  
BEING THEIR CLUBS'  
RECOGNISED PENALTY  
KICK TAKERS... MORE RARE  
IS IT FOR A GOALKEEPER TO SCORE  
DURING THE NORMAL COURSE OF PLAY

**ALBERT UYTENBOGAARDT**  
(NOW HOME IN HIS NATIVE  
SOUTH AFRICA) DID IT FOR  
CHARLTON RESERVES v.  
FOLKESTONE IN 1950...

CLEARING HIS LINES WITH A  
BIG KICK, HE SAW THE BALL  
BEAT THE ASTONISHED GOAL-  
KEEPER AT THE OTHER END—  
AND IT WAS THE WINNING GOAL

## QUITE AT HOME WITH THE BIRDS

One of the many new things naturalists have learnt about birds in recent times is that they can count. Relying more on observation than theory, modern naturalists have also found that birds often behave as individuals and can do many things hardly to be accounted for by the earlier ideas of blind "instinct."

A wonderful new book, aptly called *Living With Birds*, by Len Howard (Collins, 15s.), carries some of our new knowledge a step forward.

The ability to count, for example. Some of the Tits, with whom Miss Howard made friends, began to enter her house and use various perches and wall-boxes, and she taught a few of them to repeat the taps she made. The best of them soon learnt to repeat the same number and to come for a nut in reward.

One female Great Tit, which she called Star, actually learnt to obey the human voice instead of repeating the taps. Miss Howard, trying to speak sharp-sounding words which seem easier for a bird to recognise, would say "Tap Four." Star would fly to a certain screen

and tap. Often Star would enter the room and start tapping to attract attention. She was asking to be told a number. But if the weather was very fine Star would act like most schoolchildren and neglect her "indoor lessons."

Not the least surprising thing about Star was always knowing when she had made a mistake; she would then give the correct number more than once to show she knew. But one must read the book to realise the full wonder of the author's observations.

### TWO'S COMPANY

There are patient records of the behaviour of blackbirds out of doors, and especially of what happened between three of them, a mated male and female in the breeding season and another female who in spite of punishments kept on intruding.

Other creatures come into the author's story, including a shrew, a hedgehog, and a dormouse. This dormouse would run round and round the chair in which she sat. One day it disappeared. Long afterwards it was found, alas, flat as a pancake, in the crevice of the armchair, squashed by the cushion.

The author is economical with general rules, after showing how variously individual birds behave, but she does mention a few interesting "bird laws." One is that birds often deliberately try to help others of their kind (but not necessarily of the same family) who are in danger of distress.

Also, apart from birds of prey obtaining their natural food, the bigger birds do not hurt smaller ones, even when these make themselves really a nuisance. The smaller birds often benefit from this rule when food is scarce. The biological reason is that many species would be in danger of extinction without such laws which have a strange similarity to some of our own rules of civilised behaviour.

Here again we must leave much unreported, urging all nature-lovers to read *Living With Birds*. It is a book which can be compared with hardly any other, except the author's previous one, *Birds as Individuals*. But it is helpful also to re-read Stuart Smith's *How to Study Birds* (1945), issued by the same publishers.

C. D. D.

## WORK AND PLAY IN THE PLATYUSARY

A Platypusary has just been opened 40 miles north of Melbourne. In it that strange creature, the platypus, can be seen at play in a huge tank with plate-glass sides.

Duckbills, as they are often called, are exceedingly shy animals, and at enclosures elsewhere they only come out of their burrows at feeding times. At the Platypusary, however, they are unaware of the human audience, for the plate-glass is such that the little swimmers see in it only their own reflections and that of the tank's gravel bed, while the on-lookers have a fine view of them.

### HOME-MADE WRINGER

When a platypus decides to return to its living quarters in the burrow, the spectators see its peculiar method of drying itself. It struggles through a kind of bottleneck near the entrance to its tunnel, and thus squeezes the water out of its soft fur. This bottleneck is called a "wringer," and every platypus builds one in its natural burrow near the "front door." There are several other tunnels inside the artificial burrow at the Platypusary. They lead to various "rooms," including the "nursery" where, it is hoped, eggs will be laid and young duckbills hatched out.

Australians certainly have a unique opportunity here to study one of Nature's strangest children.

### TRACING LOST SHEEP

From Derbyshire comes news of an electronic diviner which will enable farmers to trace sheep lost beneath snowdrifts. It works from a portable battery set, and can pick up echoes of the heartbeats of trapped animals.

It is sensitive enough to trace sheep and other animals under three or four feet of snow.

## THE LION OF ST MARK—new picture-version of G. A. Henty's thrilling story (3)



Polani and his men found his daughters in an inner room of the hut, guarded by two men who instantly surrendered. There was no sign of Ruggiero. Maria related how the treacherous Duenna had brought them here as captives, telling them that Maria was to be forced to marry Ruggiero, and Giulia to marry one of his friends. The Duenna and the guards were taken to Venice and handed over to the authorities.



In gratitude to the English boy who had enabled him to rescue his daughters, Signor Polani proposed taking him into his business and making him his partner when he came of age. Francis's father agreed. Mr. Hammond was returning to London to act as the Venetian merchant's agent. But it was thought wise now to get Francis out of Venice for the time being, to avoid the danger of Ruggiero's vengeance.



Francis was delighted with his good fortune. He was to sail in one of Polani's ships, the Bonito, to learn navigation and trade. The Captain was instructed to treat him as though he were Polani's own son. The Bonito was bound for the eastern Mediterranean, but was blown off her course by a gale. It was Francis's first experience of rough weather and he was agreeably surprised not to feel seasick!



The Bonito sheltered from the gale in the harbour of Mitylene, an Aegean island, where the Captain spotted two other vessels he thought were pirates. Next morning one of them had left, and he suspected that she had gone to some island nest of pirates with the news that a solitary merchant ship was weather-bound at Mitylene. Meanwhile, the gale had increased again and the Bonito could not leave the harbour.

Will the pirates return in force to attack the Bonito? See next week's instalment



New serial of adventure in the Derbyshire hills

# THE BLUE JOHN SECRET

by Garry Hogg

My sister Nessa and I have been taken by our guardian, Bruce Halliday, to the wilds of Derbyshire to stay with friends of his. John, a boy of our own age, is nowhere to be seen when we arrive, although Nessa imagines he must be watching for us.

## 2. "Miners or Gliders"

NESSA had guessed right: John was looking out for us. But in a rather odd fashion, certainly. Bruce had swung the car into a big stone-flagged courtyard in front of a huge stone-built house as massive-looking as a fortress. He had hardly stopped before his friend Dick Brownlow, with Mrs. Brownlow close behind him, came out of the front door and over to greet us.

For a moment or two, of course, we were all busy being introduced. Bruce and Dick Brownlow slapped each other on the back and it was quite clear that they were old buddies, and Mrs. Brownlow seemed to know him quite well, and was very welcoming to us, too.

It was as we were collecting our things out of the back of the car that both Nessa and I got the feeling that we were under observation. We glanced up at the windows of the house, but could not see anyone looking out from them. Nor was there anyone looking out through the open front

door. All the same, there seemed to be someone else there, someone who was fixing us with his eye. We hoped it was not the Evil Eye!

"Where is John?" we heard Bruce ask, as we were carrying our things across the courtyard to the door.

"Oh, around somewhere, I've no doubt," said Dick Brownlow. "He will turn up, in his chosen time!"

And it was just as he said this that both Nessa and I thought we caught a glimpse of him. There was a high wall of rough, gritty rock flanking the house on each side and, as we found out later, running right round close behind



She glided down like a bird

it. It was actually the face of a quarry in which the house had been built so that its back was protected from the north and north-east winds by high, solid rock.

"Look!" Nessa and I said at the same moment.

We had caught a glimpse of someone scrambling at breakneck speed down the face of the rock, almost as fast as if he had fallen sheer down it. But at the foot of the rock he had vanished into thin air. He was, and then he was not: just like that!

"John is a bit sudden, isn't he!" Nessa remarked once, after we had been there a day or two and still not quite got used to him.

## Farmhouse tea

It was just the right word for him. He was always vanishing and reappearing in a flick of the fingers, and what is more extraordinary, he never seemed to reappear from the place where he had vanished.

A farmhouse sort of tea was awaiting us in a stone-flagged room filled with comfortable chairs and enormous sofas. There were home-made bread and scones and cakes, and heather honey and bilberry jam, which I tried and found too sour, though Nessa said it was gorgeous and took some more. There was creamy milk for us, though the grown-ups drank tea, which Nessa and I don't really like, though, of course, we

have to have it at school and most places where we go. But John didn't come in to tea.

"You will run into him somewhere, some time," Dick Brownlow said, when I asked him, and Mrs. Brownlow opened her mouth as if to add something, and closed it without saying anything. I could not help thinking what a fathead he was to be missing such a magnificent tea, but realised, of course, that he probably had that sort of tea pretty well every day and so thought nothing of it.

## "Jet-propelled" figure

"Hullo—"

We had met him. Or rather, he had met us. Nessa and I were going up to our bedrooms, which were next door to one another almost at the head of the staircase. We had turned the corner of the stone-flagged passage at the foot of the stairs when suddenly, as though jet-propelled, a figure launched itself down the banisters and landed immediately in front of us. But for the massive flagstones I should think he would probably have gone clean through into the cellars below! As it was, he stopped as though he were an engine running into a set of buffers, face to face with Nessa and me.

He was short, thickset, square-shouldered, very strong-looking, with short-cut, stiff, wiry hair. He stuck his clenched fists on his hips and said abruptly: "Miners? Or Gliders?"

Nessa and I looked at each other. It was rather an odd question to have thrown at us like that, and we did not know what to answer.

## Challenge

Then: "I'm John," he announced, "in case you did not know. You are Lance," he went on, prodding me with a stubby forefinger just over my breast pocket. "And you are Nessa," he added, fixing her with a stare that seemed to bore into her almost as hard as his finger had bored into me.

He looked at us each in turn, searchingly, and then he said: "Can you do things?" fixing his gaze on Nessa. I felt from the way he asked her that what he really meant was: "I bet you aren't any good. You are only a girl." Well, Nessa would soon show him he was wrong!

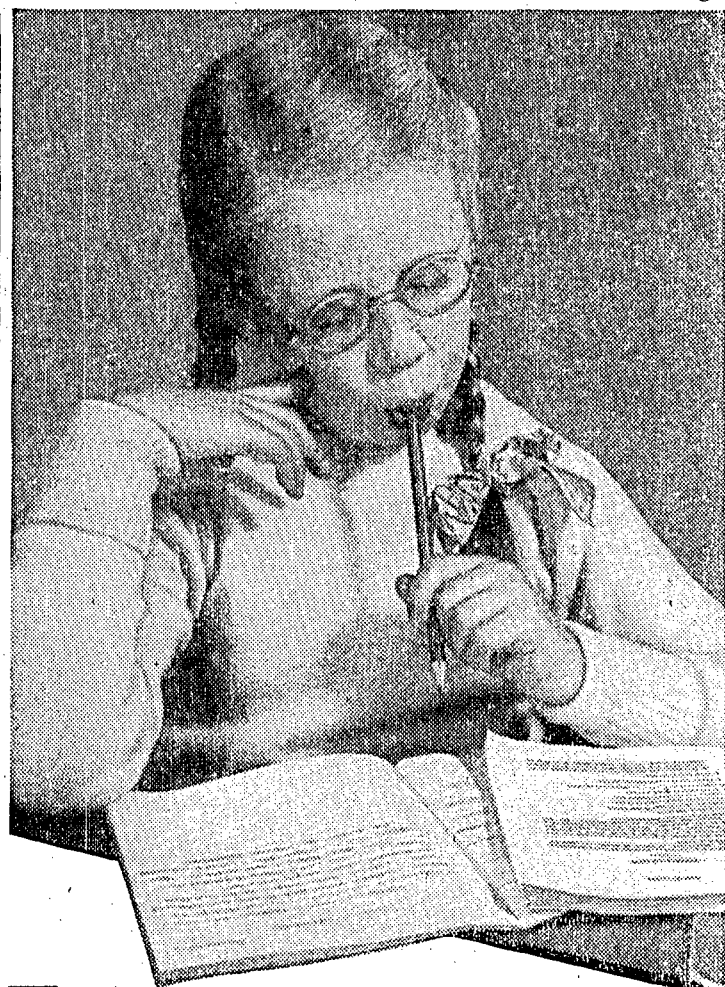
"I know which you are," Nessa said, being the first of us to speak. "A glider, aren't you?"

"Why do you say that?" he asked her, half angrily.

"Because of the way you came down those banisters, of course," she answered.

He gave a short, cut-off laugh. "That's nothing. Anybody can do that. Even Lance could. Even you, I should think. Or—could you?"

Continued on page 11



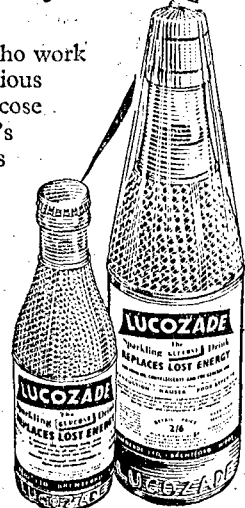
**Q** "When can I have some Lucozade?"

**A** "When you've finished your homework."

**CONCLUSION** "I'll want some Lucozade by then."

Boys and girls who use their brains and who work and play hard should drink plenty of delicious Lucozade. You see, Lucozade contains glucose and glucose is the body's blood sugar—it's what gives you energy. But Lucozade does even more than that—it's a wonderful, sparkling drink that helps keep your appetite up and helps you concentrate too. So next time you want a refreshing, sparkling drink ask for Lucozade—it's jolly good.

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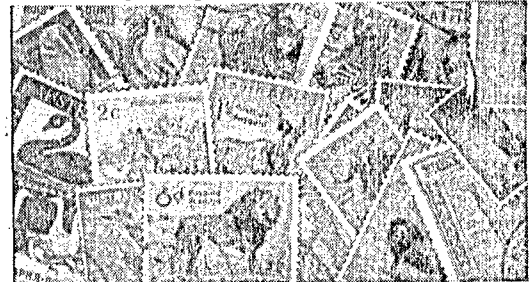


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## LOOKING AT THE SKY

# AURIGA IS NOW OVERHEAD

THE grand constellation of Auriga, containing the brilliant Capella, the Goat Star, is now almost overhead between 8 and 10 o'clock in the evening and presents some wonderful examples of the marvellous stellar host above us.

Auriga's chief stars may be readily recognised from the star-map which also includes Nath, although this really belongs to Taurus, the Bull. Nath is at the tip of the Bull's horn while Auriga is above the Bull's head. Auriga was the name of the old Roman charioteers, and the constellation is depicted as a kneeling charioteer, strangely enough, with a kid on the figure's shoulder—hence its sometimes being known as the Shepherd.

But this symbolic story is somewhat complicated by the fact that Auriga is in a Waggon and is sometimes described as the Waggoner.



Chief stars of Auriga

These constellations with their singular symbolic star-grouping go back to the early days of Chaldea and Egypt, many thousands of years ago and were old when Abraham or the Pharaohs looked up at them. The figure of Auriga with the goat and kids was discovered many years ago among the ancient carvings of Babylonia, presenting the group almost exactly as it has been pictured for ages.

Capella is actually composed of two magnificent suns, remarkably similar to our Sun; but being larger they radiate about 150 times more light and heat than does ours. These suns of Capella are about 79 million miles apart and revolve round their common centre of gravity in 104 days.

One of these suns is about four times bigger than our Sun and the other about 3½ times bigger; thus

the smaller sun has to travel on its orbit at an average speed of 29 miles a second, and the greater sun (with the smaller orbit) at 23 miles a second.

The Earth, by the way, travels at some 18½ miles a second round the Sun. It is now moving at its fastest because the Earth is about its nearest to the Sun, 91,300,000 miles away.

We may thus compare this grand double-sun solar system with our own; but the suns of Capella are seen from a distance 2,990,000 times farther away than our Sun and so they appear as but one star.

But when seen through the very powerful telescope at Mount Wilson, it was noticed that Capella sometimes appeared elongated. The interferometer, a then newly-invented measuring apparatus, was attached to the great reflector telescope and proved that Capella was composed of two stars and that the elongation was produced by observing them when at their greatest apparent distance apart.

## VAST SOLAR SYSTEM

The solar system of Capella is known to be on a much vaster scale than our own, for it possesses what appear to be a pair of flaming planets, or a planet and a flaming satellite such as our Earth and Moon once were.

They are travelling either with or round the two great central suns of Capella at the tremendous distance of 1,069,500 million miles. As these, apparently, planetary bodies are about 3441 million miles apart we may understand on what a vast scale this solar system of Capella must be.

There are doubtless many more bodies composing this grand "stellar family" of Capella but they are too small to be perceived with present telescopic powers.

The star-map should be kept for reference as further wonders of Auriga remain to be described.

G. F. M.



## These three help many

These Ilford youngsters—Andrew Hull, Jacqueline Burrows, and Jennifer Hull—like to be able to help children's homes, and they do this by selling hand-painted plaster models of animals.

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# SPORTS SHORTS

SCOTLAND open the Rugby Union international season on Saturday at Murrayfield, where France will provide the opposition. In previous matches between the two countries Scotland has won 14, France ten, and one match has been drawn. France has won the last three games.

JACKIE MCGLEW, opening batsman and vice-captain of the South African cricket team that toured this country last summer, has been elected South Africa's Sportsman of the Year. McGlew topped the tourists' batting averages with 1871 runs (average 58.46), and scored five centuries.

## Barefoot champion

It hardly seems possible, but the holder of the New South Wales women's cross-country title and the State cross-country half-mile championship is eleven-year-old Marie Stenner, a Sydney schoolgirl. She has never received coaching and runs in bare feet.

## Our youngest coach



Malcolm Abbott is Britain's youngest officially qualified basket ball coach—at 15 years old. Here he is, passing on a few tips to a couple of his friends at Morpeth Secondary School, East London.

TED HARPER, son of the former Blackburn Rovers and Tottenham Hotspur international centre-forward, has been appointed sports master at the Bromley County Grammar School. He has played for Walthamstow Avenue for some seasons, and has represented the F.A., Essex, and the Isthmian League; and he may win his English cap this season.

MICKY BONIN, a South African, has been chosen as one of the 24 possibles for Britain's Olympic Games swimming team. A lighting engineer, who is studying in London for his final exams, he has a residential qualification to represent Britain. So keen is he to earn his place in the Olympic side that he is undergoing weight-lifting training three times a week to develop his chest and arms.

LITTLE Karen McGuire, who lives in New York, has always wanted a horse, so when she heard that a champion racehorse was to be sold she put in her bid—£8.4s. 6d. But Karen's offer was not quite enough, for the horse was sold for a record sum of £446,785. However, officials handling the sale bought her another one.

LEN PIDDUCK, former British heavyweight wrestling champion, and a possible for our Olympics team at Melbourne, will shortly leave this country to take up an appointment at the Northern Rhodesia copper mines. A Dartford policeman, he represented Britain at the 1948 Olympics and only recently won the London heavyweight championship.

## Playing for England



Heather Ward, the talented young badminton player, who is playing for England against Scotland at Edinburgh this week. Only 17, she is the youngest girl ever to play for England.

## She won all her races

MADELINE WESTON, 15-year-old member of the Selsonia Ladies A.C., recently received an illuminated address from her club to commemorate her winning every junior race in which she ran last season. Madeline won London Schools, All-England Schools, Southern, Surrey, and A.A.A. Junior championships over distances from 80 to 150 yards. She enters the senior ranks next summer, and may become one of our great hopes for the 1960 Olympics.

## A sportsman

DEFINITIONS of a sportsman are many and varied. Here is one in the dressing-room of the Haringay Racers ice-hockey team.

A sportsman is a man who does not boast, nor quit, nor make excuses when he fails.

He is a cheerful loser and a quiet winner. He plays fair and as well as he can.

He enjoys the pleasure of the risk, he gives his opponent the benefit of the doubt, and he values the game itself more highly than the result.

# THE BLUE JOHN SECRET

Continued from page 9

It was a challenge. I saw Nessa stiffen, and her lips came together for a moment, a little grimly. Then she laughed, lightly.

"Of course I can!"

"Let's see you then," John said. It was very clear that he did not believe her.

"Hang on to this then," she said, and handed him her case, which he took with a look of surprise, as though he was not really used to taking people's cases just like that.

I did not say anything, but I was uneasy. We had not got any banisters like these at home, and I doubted very much whether Nessa had ever in her life done any banister-gliding. But nothing would have persuaded me just then to try to stop her. This was a challenge, and it is not a good thing to let a challenge go by. Especially, I should think, when it is a challenge thrown out by John! All the same, I wished it had been me he challenged, not Nessa.

"Look out!" she called down to us.

## Like a bird

The landing seemed an awfully long way away from where we stood at the foot of the long straight staircase. John moved to one side, and I stepped back a foot or two so that I would be handy if Nessa landed badly.

She did not, though, as I might have known. With her two legs stuck out on each side of her like a tightrope walker's balance-poles, she skimmed down that banister-rail like a bird. And what is more, she landed at our feet as lightly as a bird, with none of the fearful thud that had marked

John's arrival. Neatly, as though she were doing gym, she bent and straightened her knees on landing, and in a split second she was standing beside us as though she had been there all the time.

"Jolly good, Ness," I could not help saying, admiringly, though I knew she would not want any praise from me. It had been jolly good, all the same.

"Not bad," admitted John, rather grudgingly. "For a girl, that is."

I saw Nessa flush and for a moment I thought she was going to flash out some remark or other. But she bit her lip and said nothing. Then she turned to go back upstairs, and I followed her. It was only when we reached the top landing and I glanced back to see what it must have looked like to her as she prepared to banister-glide, that I realised John was carrying her case.

## The strange question

"Thanks," she said, as briefly as he himself would have said it, and took the case from him.

John stood there for a moment or two, a little awkwardly. And then he was gone.

"What do you think he meant when he said, 'Miners or gliders'?" I asked her, when we had unpacked and were going back downstairs again.

Nessa shook her head. "I don't know. But Bruce said something about gliding, didn't he?"

"And something about mines, too," I said. "Ancient lead mines, wasn't it?"

"We shall find out soon enough, I expect," Nessa said. "About both."

And we certainly did!

To be continued

## BUMPER PRIZES!

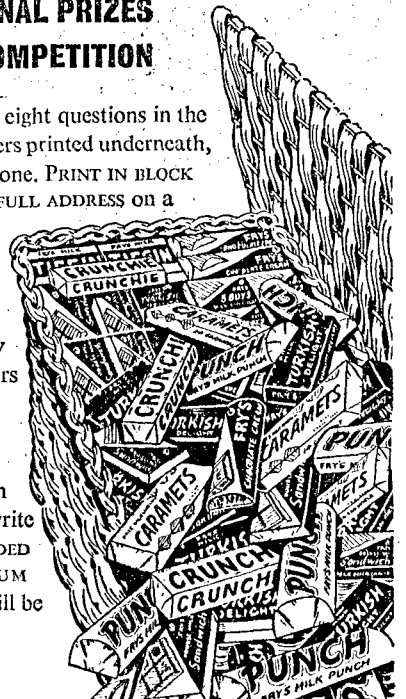
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Opposite each number write the answer which you think is correct. Send your entry with any three Punch or Caramets wrappers in a sealed envelope (2½d stamp) to Fry's Stamp Competition, Department D.B.1, Somerdale, Bristol. Age and neatness is taken into account in the judging—so write carefully. PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED IN EACH AGE GROUP—MAXIMUM AGE 15 YEARS. Prize winners will be informed by post.

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Manchester Ship Canal · Panama Canal  
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### 3 WHICH FALLS ?



Victoria Falls · Angel Falls  
Niagara Falls · Khon Cataracts

### 4 WHAT COUNTRY ?

Germany  
Sweden · Italy  
Holland



### 5 WHICH QUEEN ?

Queen Wilhelmina  
Q. Elizabeth the Gt.  
Queen Victoria  
Queen Salote



### 6 WHAT COLOUR ?

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Magenta Red  
Light Brown  
Light Blue



### 7 WHEN ISSUED ?

1890 · 1910  
1912 · 1920



### 8 WHOSE HEAD ?

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## THE BRAN TUB

### LOSING BATTLE

MOTHER: "Jimmy, what's all that noise in the larder?"

Jimmy: "I'm fighting temptation, Mother. And it's a great struggle."

### TEAMWORK

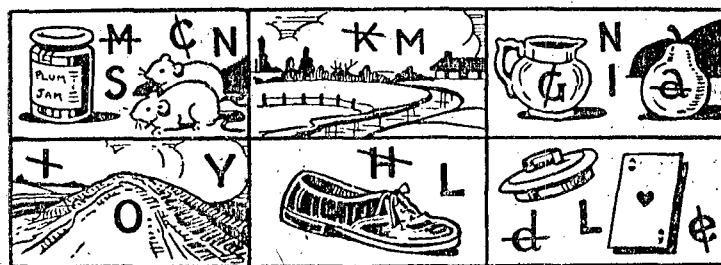
In the following paragraph the words in italics form an anagram of a famous football club. Can you say which one?

**MYSTERIOUS** is the fate of Erebus and Terror, the two ships which Sir John Franklin commanded when he set off in 1845 to seek the North-West Passage. They were last sighted by a *whaler* in Melville Bay, Greenland, on July 26, but from that day they vanished. In the following years many ships were sent to *comb* these regions, and two ships resembling Erebus and Terror were reported as being embedded in a huge iceberg. The Admiralty investigated each *bit* of evidence but appeared unconvinced. However, the theory that the ships on the ice were the Erebus and Terror *won* much support.

Answer in column 5

### WHAT SHRUBS ARE THESE?

The answers to these six picture-puzzles are all names of shrubs, such as you might find in your garden. What are they? Answers in column 5



### HARD TO PLEASE

TEACHER: "Really, Dan, your handwriting gets worse all the time."

Dan: "Well, sir, if I wrote any clearer, you'd be finding fault with my spelling."

### PORRIDGE PUZZLE

By adding one letter in each case to the basic ingredient of porridge, you can make something to wear, animals, vessels, and kinds of ditches. What are they?

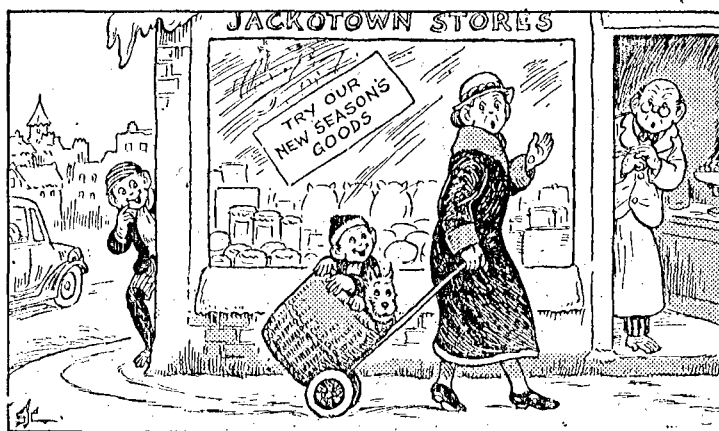
Answers in column 5



### Time to get out of that hammock

Living on board a motor yacht at Shoreham-by-Sea, Sussex, young Andrew Bengtsson may be rocked in the cradle of the Deep, but he actually sleeps in a hammock in the wheelhouse.

## BABY AND BOUNCER GET A FREE RIDE



Mother had gone to town to do some shopping. Jacko, Baby, and Bouncer were also going, she knew, but as she had rather a lot to buy she decided to go on ahead, pulling her shopping basket behind her. She had just reached the grocer's when she heard a giggle. She turned, and there were Baby and Bouncer in the basket. And round the corner she spied the grinning features of Jacko. Mother had the last laugh, however, for she filled the basket with purchases and then handed it over to Jacko to wheel home!

### ILL OMEN

JOHNNY: "Didn't you have a good time on your birthday yesterday?"

Willie, ever ready to defend himself: "Of course I did."

Johnny: "Then why aren't you ill today?"

### MIXED UP

Here are six familiar expressions which have been mixed up. Can you put each in its correct form?

GREEN Island  
Swan Summer.  
Black Fingers  
Treasure Box  
Pandora's Magic  
Indian Song

Answers in column 5

### ALL TO MATCH

AN iron-worker named Jock Maconickle  
Made more ingots than you'd care to chronicle;  
He'd an iron-grey mop  
A bit rusty on top  
And, of course, all his wit was ironical.

### WHAT BIRD AM I?

MY first is in pony, but not in horse,  
My second's in rose and also in gorse,  
My third is in beaver, but not in turtle,  
My fourth is in cowslip, but not in myrtle,  
My fifth is in bison, and also in fox,  
My sixth is in clarkia, but not in phlox,  
My last is in kangaroo, but not in stoat,  
My whole's a fine bird, with a tail you will note.

Answer in column 5

### BEDTIME TALE

## BILLY BUILDS A SNOWMAN

BILLY was delighted when he opened his eyes one morning and saw snow on the roofs. In a flash he was out of bed, into his clothes, and down in the front garden.

He had just begun to make a snowman when Paul joined him, and a few minutes later Jean came from her house opposite.

With the three of them gathering snow the figure quickly began to take shape, and before long they were able to step back and admire their snowman.

"He wants dressing," said Billy. He dashed into the house and came out carrying a hat, scarf, and pipe.

"That's better," he said. "He

### LONG AGO

IN the days of long ago;  
Little girls like you, you know,  
Couldn't run, and jump, and play,  
And laugh, like you, the livelong day.

They had to put on prim new frocks,  
And long white gloves and clean new socks;  
And walk sedately down the town  
With Mother in her frilly gown.

### GR PLUS

ADD to the letters gr the name of an insect, snake, bird, animal, fruit, and a cereal. You will then have words with the following meanings:

Bestow. Grip. Angry snarl. A fruit. Struggle with. Old English coin.

Answers in column 5

### Winter woolly



On cold days Peter, the King penguin at the Glasgow Zoo, appreciates his keeper's warm scarf. He will not get his normal sleek feathers until next summer, as he is still a chick.

### HOWLER

A PSYCHOLOGIST is someone very clever on a cycle.

### FARE RETORT

CONDUCTOR: "Haven't you anything but a pound note?"

Old lady: "Of course, but I never carry more than I need."

### WHERE ARE THEY?

What are these places?

THE county of Broad Acres.  
The Emerald Isle.  
The Holy City.  
The Land of The Midnight Sun.  
The Land of The Rising Sun.  
The Royal Mile.

Answers below

### SPOT THE . . .

MOLE HILL showing black against the gleaming snow. This generally indicates a thaw is at hand. Frost drives earthworms deep into the ground and the mole follows them down; he is a hungry fellow and worms are his staple diet. As the temperature rises the worms return nearer the surface and then the mole's activities can be plainly seen.

### STAMP ALBUM ANSWER

(a) Italian Somalia  
(b) East African Forces

### ANSWERS TO QUIZ CORNER

- Cricket.
- So-called because it was once caught chiefly off the coast of Sardinia. It is a small food-fish which belongs to the herring family.
- Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865), President of the U.S.A. from 1860 to 1865. Born in a log cabin in Kentucky.
- Philip Arthur George, and Elizabeth Alice Louise.
- No. It was used, as a quotation, by John Wesley in his sermon "On Dress," but its actual source is unknown.
- Kent; Herts, Bucks, and Berks.

### BRAN TUB ANSWERS

Teamwork. West Bromwich Albion.  
What shrubs are these? Jasmine, broom, juniper, holly, sloe, lilac

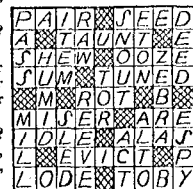
Porridge puzzle. OATS, coats, goats, boats, moats

Mixed up. Green Fingers, Swan Song, Black Magic, Treasure Island, Pandora's Box, Indian Summer

What bird am I? Peacock

Gr plus. Gr (ant); gr (asp); gr (owl); gr (ape); gr (apple); gr (oat)

Where are they? Yorkshire, Ireland, Jerusalem, Lapland, Japan, Edinburgh



## ANOTHER LIFE SAVED

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